NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

from his retreat some remarks on recent developments, national and local, and some reflections thereon, which, for their disinterestedness, general truth, intelligence, and patriotic spirit, command our respect and induce us to give them to our renders. We have, however, thought proper to withhold one or two passages, in which the writer objects to certain appointments, and discusses their propriety with a freedom of personal reference which, however just in itself, it would be at variance with our habit to admit.

NEW YORK, APRIL 18, 1853. It is not to be decied that there has been for some time past a feeling of anxiety and disquietude prevalent in this city, without reference to the particular political sentiment of individuals or parties, in regard to many questions, both social and political, either now before the world or rising visibly above the horizon, and threaten-

ing speedily to assume a paramount importance. This sense of uneasiness and distrust still prevails. without any symptom of abstement, in regard principally to three points-the equivocal position and uncertain tendency of our foreign relations; the unheard-of corruption of the city government, and its apparent irresponsibility to any existing authority; and, lastly, the dubious prospects of the meney market.

To all thinking minds it is evident that the a s-yet-undisturbed peace of the European continent is to be ascribed mainly to the increased commercial interdependence of nations, to the peace-seeking policy of the merchants, and to the desire of the middle classes, paramount to all other inclinations, for leisure to practice in dustry, security to profit by it, and peace to ameliorate their own condition, without disturbance of war, unless upon unendurable provocation and absolute necessity.

This honorable and moral state of feeling, which has had so strong a recent manifestation in the deputation from those representing British commercial interests to Louis Napoleon, exists no less generally among the mercantile classes of New York, and works no less powerfully, if it have found as yet no public demonstration necessary, as it was, perhaps erronecusly, supposed to be in Europe. And these classes-clearly perceiving that the injury which must accrue to the social interests of this country in particular, and to the great cause of humanity and the progressive civilization of the world in general, from even a brief and triumphant maritime war, is infinitely greater than any benefit to be derived from the accomplishment of the extremes of aggrandizement urged by the "manifest destiny" school of politiciansdo unquestionably look with doubt and disquiet, to whatever party they may ostensibly belong, on recent fereign appointments of the Cabinet. * * * *

In consequence of the inaptitude of these appointments, it is somewhat apprehended that they indicate a sort of indirect intention to reiterate to the nations. approached those portions of the Inaugural Address relating to the Monroe Doctrine and to distant acquisitions; and hence among the considerate, intelligent, and pacific portion of this mercantile community, as opposed to the war-seeking demagogues and ambitious speculators who subsidize the invaders of friendly nations, and threaten tumultuary personal wars to foreign potentates, there is an increasing apprehension that the future policy of the Administration is not altegether peaceful and domestically progressive.

That the true inclinations of New York are thoroughly and intrinsically peaceful, and opposed to any war on progressive principles, or on any but the most undeniable causes or allegations of offence, you may rest perfectly assured.

In every great city there is a scum of vagabondism thrown up from the fermentation of mass-passions, ready to clamor for war, by which personally they have all to gain, nothing to lose. In every commercial metropolis there are great-if wealth be greatness-gambling speculators, Crockfords of commerce, concocters of "Mississippi schemes" and "South Sea bubbles," ready to sacrifice alike public welfare and national bonor to indivi-

stances referred to above, is the deer sense of the cor-fered for his app rehension. ruption, venality, and debasement of the city government; of the impossibility of checking or punishing, existing in the City or State of New York.

It were not much to assert that of the whole popula tion of New York three-fourths were undisguisedly filled with great satisfaction at the late sentence pronounced on the members of the Common Council; and at the soundness and firmness of Judge Duer's and Judge Bronson's dicta. Where any diesatisfaction was expressed, it was that the fines were not heavier, and the imprisonments of far greater duration.

When it was found that the infliction of these sentences is to be postpened indefinitely; and, yet more, when the decision of Judge Morris became public that there is no jurisdiction in the Recorder to compel the testimony of rect that the recipe of the practicing physician temporawitnesses concerning the frauds and corruptions of the city officers, a general sense of insecurity arose; and it is a matter of general conversation that there must be taken measures the most stringent to enferce the laws, if they be merely misdirected by a partial or venal judicia ry; or to procure the enactment of sufficient laws, if the present statutes be in truth-which I must say is not generally believed-insufficient to the end desired by all good men.

abstained, so long and so systematically, from all inter- ed beyond the limits of the State. ference in the course of the city government, that the city charter elections have fallen into the hands of low, ignorant, and degraded parties; that the persons elected are chosen by a tumult of foreign-born citizens, peacenble persons shunning the polls as a pestilence; and that the electors have no choice but between keepers of corner groceries, unscrupulous demagogues, and pot-house politicians.

It is known that nothing but the excess of wrong and robbery can bring out a strong expression or produce a his eloquent address upon the life of Dr. DRAKE. combined action on the part of the best portion of the community; and it is feared that with the least subsidence of the excess of wrong, perhaps with the mere lapse of time, the indignation of society will likewise subside. Hence something beyond despondency, and nearly approaching to despair, as to any beneficial reorganization of the city government, or any improvement in the administration of justice in this the commercial discovery of America was read by M. F. Force, Esq. metropolis of America

Not much inferior to the disquietade as to foreign relations, and despondency as to city reform, has been the alarm as to the state of the money market. Nor was ry unpublished histories, and the careful original rethere not much reason for alarm. The vast inflation, the search which he has bestowed upon it, enabled him to creation of numerous, wholly irresponsible, swindling produce an essay which, for accuracy and merit as a hiscompanies, under the title of private banks, the stringency toward those of the larger and more highly regarded institutions, have resulted in a quasi panic, and a sort of incipient crash; from which a large portion of snow and looks like winter with us. It snowed all day

and worthless banks, much stringency in the money market, much distress, and perhaps insolvency, for months to come, in the mercantile community, there cannot be A retired but well-informed gentleman of New York, with little taste for party politics, yet not unobservent of public officers observant of public affairs, and warmly attached to exists nothing among the population at large resembling the honor and happiness of the country, sends us the vast credit system, and the almost universal insol. vency of all classes, whether commercial or not, of that and American rights in the case : sastrous period.

The greatly increased productiveness of the coun'try the influx of precious metals, and the fact that, in 'spite of the deterioration of city property, healthful purc hases of lands in the country range at the old prices, se em to favor this more sanguine opinion.

NEW BOOK

LIVES OF THE BROTHERS HUMBOLDT: translated from the German. Harpers, New York.

ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT, the young er of these prothers, stands pre-eminent as a naturalist,, a traveller, and a geologist. The two boys showed an early tendency to diverge into different paths, and each. following the bent of nature, succeeded in his favorite pursuit, Alexander devoting his energies to physical studies, and William to mithetics.

Ardent to fulfil the mission with which his mind was cupied, Alexander, after a series of disappointments in the north of Europe, received at Windrid, in the year 1799, the royal permission to visit and explore the Spanish ossessions in America; and, accompanied by the naturaist Bongland, embarked on board the Spanish corvette Pizarre, bound for Havana and Mexico. They sailed from Corunns on the 6th June, and, by favor of a violent storm. escaped the English squadron which was then blockading that port. Passing strange it is, observes the translator. that Spain, which is always decried by nations less generous, should have been the only maritime Power that would appreciate and countenance the great geographical discoverer, Columbus, as well as the scientific explorer of nature and nature's works, Von Humboldt.

Landing at Teneriffe, the royal letters procured for then the friendship of the Military Commander Armiago, and free permission to meke execusions into the interior of the island, survey its curiosities and tropical productions, and revel in the enchanting scenery and prospects spread abroad from the summit of the peak.

On the 4th July, off the Cape de Verd Islands, the night exhibited to our delighted travellers the brilliant constellation of the Southern Cross, which quite eclipses the stell ar clusters of our northern horizon. Arrived at Cuman a, Humbeldt is kindly received by the Governor, explores that region, and visits the flourishing city of Carace as, since utterly destroyed by a terrific earthquake. Embarking on the river Orinoco, he ascends to its junction with the Amazon, and is hospitably received at the warie us missionary establishments of those remote regions. Our travellers arrive at Angostura in the month of June, d800 , having surveyed the rivers Apure, Orinoco, Atabapo, and 1 3io Negro. Grateful for the hospitalities extended to them by the Governor of that Province, they sail for Cuba. and e nter the harbor of Havana on the 19th December Here extending his researches to the area, soil, and climate of this Queen of the Antilles, Humboldt visits Carthagena, and st the chain of the Andes, he ascends the majestic top of the Volcans, Cotopaxi, a those thunderings are heard at a distance of 200 miles, and scales the Chimborazo to an elevation hitherte playing.

In Ja nuary, 1894, Humboldt determines the height of the voic snoes in the Cordilleras, as also of the pyramid of aspiring members of Congress, even of the same party of Cholu da; thence, visiting Xalapa, he ascends and measures the peak of Orizava; and, having passed some months i a exploring the natural wonders of these regions, our trave dler cetures to Vera Cruz, and sails for Havana in a Spa nisk frigore. Thence he passes to the United States, at rives in Philadelphia, visits Washington; and, having st udied the political structure of our Northern Confederation, returns to Europe, and lands at Bordeaux

in August, 1864. Such is a rapid sketch of this great philosopher's travels on this continent, and on the American islands. For his sub sequent labors and geological investigations n Europe a nd Asia, as also for the life and fortunes o miles from Steubenville, by the 1st of January next. his elder bre ther we refer the reader to the volume

An atrocio as murder was committed in Okolona (Miss.) Prattsville Advocate has been shown by Rev. L. L. Hill, on the 1st ins tant, on the person of Newton Nouss, by a the inventor of "Hillotyping," a method of silvering youth named Gruz. Noles was a school teacher and Gill glass, which he considers of great practical value in the more than enough among us; but you may rest assured ed into the roo to during school hours with his hat on his "Mr. Hill took a small glass, such as daguerreans use that nine-tenths of those who represent the property, the head, and when a requested to take it off he replied insointellect, and the integrity of the city are in favor of public morality, national honor, international justice, and demanded an explanation, which brought on the difficulty spect. We kept an eye upon it the whole time; the process was fully explained, and the result cannot be excelthat resulted in Gill's stabbing him, which produced his led. Out of some three hundred experiments which Mr. In proportion to the uneasiness created by the general death in about t keep minutes. Gill immediately fled and Hill has made, he has never failed in making a perfect distrust of the foreign policy, as indicated by the circum- is still at large. A reward of two hundred dollars is of- mirror.

The ice-merch unts of New York have published their ment; of the impossibility of checking or punishing. The ice-merch into of New York have published their much less preventing and uprooting, this growing canker season terms. They charge fifty centes week for ten or with a view of adapting it to Heliochromy, never dream by any system of authority, any judicial powers, new twelve pounds of ice delivered daily, against twenty-five ing of its beautiful application to the manufacture of mir charged last season--just double price.

> PATENT MEDICINE S .- A special committee reported PATENT MEDICINAS.—A special committee reported a nufacture, together with the knowledge of doing so. The bill te the Massachusetts Legislature, providing that no expense of manufacturing mirrors by this new and duradruggist, apothecary, or persons engaged in manufacturing medicines, or com pounds to be administered as medicine, (except such as are published in standard works of breaking them to pieces. We hazard nothing in predictshemistry, materia me dies, or pharmacepia,) shall offer ing that it will create an entire revolution in the art of the same for sale in any way till he has filed a complete making mirrors, and that, in a few years at most, there recipe in English, sworm to before a legal authority constituted for such purposes. The remaining sections of the bill secure by penalties the operation of the first, and dirily given shall not be included in the action of the bill.

ture of Delaware passed an act, at its last session, pro-Sound men perceive that the true cause of the evil hibiting any non-resident debtor from being arrested or by order of the British admiralty, written suggestive letters, Sound men perceive that the true cause of the evil hibiting any non-resident debtor from being arrested or pyorder of the british admirally, written suggestive etters, held to bail in that State for any debt contracted beyond integrity, and wealth have, from a selfish parsimony of its limits. The act further provides that if any non-resident debtor from being arrested or pyorder of the british admirally, written suggestive etters.

By order of the british admirally, written suggestive etters, held to bail in that State for any debt contracted beyond its limits. The act further provides that if any non-resident debtor from being arrested or pyorder of the british admirally, written suggestive etters, affording valuable practical information relating to sledge travel. The letters were accompanied by presents of field compasses and India-rubber clothing and sledges, valuable period to devote a portion of their labors or their duties judge of the State he shall be discharged, upon proving The provisions consist of meat, biscuit, condensed milk, to the public interest or common weal; that they have that he is a non-resident, and that the debt was contract-

> At the meeting of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, held at Cincinnati on Monday last, Dr. JOHN C. WARREN, of Boston, was elected an honorary member, and GEO. GEAHAM, Esq. a corporate member. Communications from Senator PEARCE, of Maryland, and others were read by the Corresponding Secretary. By ciety were tendered to the President, Mr. Mansfield, for bis element of the Soresolutions, unanimously adopted, the thanks of the So-

Amongst the donations to the library received during the week was the valuable work of Dr. WARREN on the Mastoden Giganteus," an illustrated quarto volume, printed only for private distribution, and presented by the author; also, Miner's Letters on Wyoming, given by Mr. Slaymaker.

A paper on the claim of Americus Vespucius to the The opportunities which the writer has had of examining the works relating to the subject, printed in the lifetime of Vespucius, and the manuscripts of contemporatorical criticism, is seldom equalled .- Cincinnati Gazette.

Snow .- A letter from Plainfield county, Massachusetts,

TROUBLES AT SAN JUAN.

The following letter, from an officer of the Unitciently and firmly protected the American interests

"You no doubt will have heard, by the time this letter reaches you, that Commander Hollins has taken Grey-town, hauled down the Mosquito flag, and blockaded the town, hauled down the Mosquito flag, and blockaded the port, for such a report has gone from this place to the English Admiral at Jamaica before any steamer could take our despatches to New York for the Department. Of course it is a base falsehood, and has originated from the fact of our being compelled to put down a mob by force of arms soon after our arrival here on the 10th instant; and it was a fortunate circumstance that we arrived so soon, for one day's longer delay would have been at-tended with the loss of over two hundred thousand dollars worth of property, to say nothing of the loss of life ated set of freebooters. As soon as Capt. Hollins received information of their intended attack on the property of the Accessary Transit Company taking passengers to California, both himself and the first l'eutenant visited the protect the property and rights of this company were ex-plicit; but this course had no effect whatever. Finding both remonstrance and friendly advice of no use, the captain then returned to the ship, sent an armed force on Point Arenas, the location of the company's property, beat to quarters, loaded the guns with grape sho the full determination of taking their boats should they attempt to cross the river, which they had threatened to ts should they do with an armed force of 180 men; and not until this demonstration was made by us were they arrested in carry-ing into effect their base purposes; and for several days after this we had to watch them closely, day and night, to prevent their firing the buildings. After this they became so furious that they fired twenty-one guns, hauled down their flag, and demolished their own city govern-ment, saying 'now, when we do fire and destroy the pro-perty, Greytown cannot be held responsible.' So you see they were determined yet to destroy it in spite of us. A few days after this the English Consul arrived, told them they were a set of fools, and that Capt. Hollins's course had been perfectly correct, and ordered them to hoist their flag again, which they did, with twenty-one guns. Thus, then, Greytown is itself again, and these modern buccaneers are reduced to a state of quietness and moderation. But they are not altogether to be trusted; an order has been issued to hail and bring alongside every boat that crosses the river.

Men aspiring to be popular leaders have small title to be expounders of what is, or ought to be, the true policy of the country, because their smbition imposes on each of them the necessity of adopting a set of principles peculiar to himself and unappropriated by others. When a man then thinks himself too great to be a follower-such are becoming numerous in our country-and wishes to figure as a leader, he ceases to represent any body but himself. and all his words and actions are to be scrutinized with caution by that standard, and never to be implicitly received. Let us not be too skeptical, however. A great proportion of such men have a host of difficulties to encounter, and in the nature of things, as our population is fruits. It has already given birth to several important regimenting, these must constantly accomplete. To be a mong the very safest securities in the land.

"But this enterprise has not been barren of other fruits. It has already given birth to several important regimenting these must constantly accomplete. To be a mong the very safest securities in the land.

"But this enterprise has not been barren of other times with through an time during the trues of this city:

"But this enterprise has not been barren of other times."

"But this enterprise has not been barren of other times."

"But this enterprise has not been barren of other times."

"But this enterprise has not been barren of other times." augmenting, these must constantly accumulate. To borrow an illustration from the laws of a game of hazard is always allowed. We would therefore say of such characters that when they do not follow suit, if they are not trumps, they are nothing, and consequently are sure to

mation of the views of our Government from the speeches nominally with the Executive, will be very likely to be misled. Another thing: there is even danger in taking the speeches of a gentleman when out of office as infallible exponents of his conduct when he has the good fortune to get in. The responsibilities of a grave trust naturally and properly produce increased sobriety of thought and prudence in action. This is sufficient, without any imputation upon motives, to account for modifications of conduct and opinions which we frequently observe in men when advanced in power .- Newark Daily Advertiser.

The Steubenville and Indiana Railroad is to be finished to Newark. Ohio, a distance of one hundred and fourteen

NEW METHOD OF MAKING MIRRORS .- The editor of the

"In his mode of 'silvering glass' there is not a particle of the usual amalgam of tin-foil and quicksilver, but it is composed wholly of pure and unadulterated silver. The The invention did not cost him an hour's study, and he has already had liberal offers for the right to mable method will not, we think, exceed half the cost of manufacturing the kind now used; besides, they are always perfect, and no art of man can deface them without will not be a mirror of the kind now used to be found in the country."

THE KANE EXPEDITION TO THE POLAR SEAS .- Dr. Kane has returned to New York from his visit to Washington, where he proceeded to obtain his instructions from the Navy Department. Mr. Dobbin, and all the members of the Cabinet, it is said, take great interest in the expedi-tion, but were unable to give him any important material Daniel Frasen, supposed to be the last of the newleter company who fought for liberty in the battle of Concord, died lately in Pomfret, (Vt.) He was also in the battle of Bunker Hill. He was born in Wellfleet, (Mass.) and removed to Vermont in the year 1802.

tion, but were unable to give him any important material aid, in consequence of Congress having restricted them in all such matters. He will, however, sail about the 15th of Mass, in the brig Advance, furnished by Mr. Grinnell. Several members of the Grinnell expedition have volunteered their services in this second American effort. The whole band will not exceed thirty persons, including some Esquimanx who are to join the party. Sir Edward Parry, sated vegetables. The little brig (the Advance which is to convey the gallant party to their scene of operations has been magnificently fitted out by Mr. Grinnell. The sledges, in addition to their scanty cargo of food, will carry an india-rubber boat, spread upon basket or wicker work. Dogs will be used freely to carry out depots of food for the little party.

Coal has been discovered on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, about three miles from the latter place. It is said to be very rich. Some specimens of ore, sup-

At a late meeting in England, where there are but 188 At a late meeting in England, where there are but 100 men to poll, there were two troops of cavalry, two companies of infantry, and 150 police men to keep the peace. The product of price at white found to be

THE TERRIBLE CALAMITY at West Claremont, (N. H.) by which Mr. Arnold Farr, a respectable farmer, had three child-ren burnt to death on Monday night of last week, has been referred to. The family had been making maple sugar in an apartment attached to the house. Mr. Farr's hired man, Mr. Lyman Nutting, with the children, George Farr, aged 12, Alphonso, aged 7, and Francis, aged 6, slept in the same chamber, and the rest of the family below. The fire reached chamber, and the rest of the family below. The fire reached this chamber. Nutting at length was aroused, half bewildered and stupified by the gas; he sprang from the bed, and seized the younger boy, who was in bed with him, carried him some ten feet, and leaving him on the floor, hastened his steps below. With great difficulty the family were awakened. No thing was thought of but the rescue of the children occupying the chamber. The mother flew up the stairs, but was at once overcome by the smoke and flame, and with the greatest difficulty retraced her steps. The father, in the mean time, ascended a ladder and stove in the chamber window, and such was the power of the dense gas that he lost his balance and fell was the power of the dense gas that he lost his balance and fell to the ground, injuring him severely. All efforts to save the children were in vain, and the three bright, intelligent boys a sort of incipient crash; from which a large portion of the community has been led to apprehend a general bank-ruptcy, and a universal ruin, similar to that of 1837-8.

Opinion, however, seems to be settling down to the must, at this present writing, be more than three feet amust, at this present writing, be more than three feet assistance could be rendered the family. The Clarems deep; the heavy fall on Wednesday night having added a leasest crief in that community.

THE GERRYMANDER IN VIRGINIA.

FROM THE RICHMOND WHIG

We give below a list of the Congressional Districts with the political majorities in each. They are made out from the Scorr and Pience votes, and the Democratic majorities are really not so formidable as they appear; but the effort was to make them as overwhelmingly Democratic as could be effected by outrageously distorting the arrangement of the counties:

Secenth District.—Alexandria, Spotesy.

Secenth District.—Alexandria, Spotesy.

Prince William, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Stafford, Orange, and Angle George.—Democratic majority, 761.

Highth District.—Frederick, Page, Warren, Clarke, Berkeley, Jefferson, Hampshire, Morgan, and Loudoun.—Democratic majority, 1,004.

Ninth District.—Bockingham, Augusta, Rockbridge, Highland, Peudleton, Hardy, Shenandoah, and Bath.—Democratic majority, 3,431.

Tenth District.—Marshall, Ohio, Brooke, Hancock, Wetzel, Tyler, Pleasants, Marion, Monongalia, Taylor, and Preston.—Democratic management of the Computation of

jority, 2,068. Eleventh District.—Lewis, Upshur, Harrison, Barbour, Randolph, Braxton, Doddridge, Ritchie, Gilmer, Wood, Wirt, Jackson, Mason, Cabell, and Kanawha.—Democratic majority, 1,229. Twelfth District.—Monroe, Craig, Roanoke, Montgomery, Alleghany, Botetourt, Giles, Merer, Greenbrier, Boone, Logan, Floyd, Wyoning, Wayne, Fayette, Nicholas, Pocahontas, and Raleigh.—Democratic mainting the Computer Science.

jority in the First District, but that was only permitted under the belief that the present Democratic Represen-tative could be again elected. In the Third District they have taken special pains to have every county con-nected with the city of Richmond Democratic, so as to overbalance the Whig majority of the city. A lithogra-phic exhibit of the districts would display them in all

OPENING OF A RAILROAD.

their shocking deformity.

The city of Pittsburgh has just achieved a very impo tant work in the completion of the Ohio and Pennsylvan Railroad, running westwardly for a distance of 186 miles to Crestline, and traversing in its course a fertile and populous region of Ohio. Its connexions with other works are both numerous and important; and with the entire work and its connexions Baltimore will become directly and most advantageously united through the contemplated Connellsville railroad. The Pittsburgh Gazette has the following annunciation on the subject:

"This city now has one railroad peculiarly its own nearly two hundred miles long, connecting us with the great net of railroads ramifying through every part of the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois—a railroad which will, through all time, pour the riches of the West

railroad projects, all of which will prove of immensivalue to this city. The Bellefontaine and Indiana Railroad, the Ohio and Indiana Railroad, the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, and the Springfield and Mount Ver-non Railroad, and some two or three others, are all the legitimate results of the Ohio and Pennsylvania Raillose the trick, and finally the game, for which they are road. They were all undertaken to connect with our road, and as a part of its great system of connexions. They will all be feeders to it, and help to swell its golden profits. Truly, its conception was a happy thought for Pittsburgh, and its completion is a bright era in her history

> From the same paper we copy the annexed article The union of Baltimore with Pittsburgh by the direct Connellsville route will open to us the shortest and quickest line of communication with Lakes Erie and

day that the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad is to be let to contractors the whole length, one hundred and fifty miles, from Fort Wayne to Chicago. A little over six months ago we attended the Convention in the interior of Indiana at which the company was organized. Since procured, right of way obtained, and now contractors are invited to present their proposals preparatory to letting. By the close of the next year the cars will be running, and the direct line from Pittsburgh to Chicago

ll be completed.
"The distance from Pittsburgh to Chicago by this route will be 467 miles, as follows:

From Pittsburgh to Crestline .. From Crestline to Fort Wayne.

"This is the shortest line that can be constructed beween this city and the thriving metropolis of the Northwest. It is a line of easy grades and large curvatures, and will have a first class railroad the whole distance. and when finished can be run in from 16 to 18 hours Being under the control of three companies of congenial interests, and harmonizing together, it will be worked to the greatest advantage, and must be the most popular between the East and Chicago and Galena.

INTERESTING DECISION .- In the United States Circuit Court, sitting at St. Louis, (Mo.) in the case of Wilkinson vs. Yeatman, to eject the defendant from a lot of ground, to one half of which it was agreed the defendant had the right of possession, and to recover rents, the Court held that if the defendant put on improvements in the belief that he had a good title to the lot, he would be entitled to the value of the improvements; and the plaintiff would have a right to only the rent of the land

Shreveport (La.) was visited with a destructive fire on the 8th instant, which consumed fourteen stores on the is secured by the pressure of the atmosphere of ordina-front landing, and four houses on Texas street. The ry density behind it, that in front being rarifed by means principal sufferers are L. Newberger, A. Winter, T. M. Turner, Isler & Beck, G. M. Nich ols, J. J. Galagher, R. Donnell & Co., Thatcher & Co., E. S. Kneeland, Fox & Hamlet, B. M. Johnson. The a ggregate loss is reported to be very heavy.

30th ultimo says: "The steamboat P. H. V Thite, with a good deal of whiskey on board, generou aly intended for the Indian country exclusively, was by parded last week while lying in the Verdigris by a ament of troops stationed at pilt or taken, and the officers Fort Gibson, the whiskey s arrested to stand a trial f or violating the intercourse law as and the Indian tribes. The between the United Stat captain of the boat, with his respectable assistants, were on and put in the guard-house, a on foot to Van Buren to await first taken to Fort Gibs and then marched dow their trial."

fe see by the reports of the police Louisville that Judge Joyes, a day sted the police to arrest all boys percourt of the city of or two since, instru ambulating the stre ets at a late hour at night, unless can show good cau se for being out. His honor said that ot keep their children at home he would if parents could n

PERCIAL TRANSACTION .- An old fellow living

the Main sent te a business correspondent at e-Oder a large consignment of cotton stock-he same time to another correspondent at the Frankfort-on-th ings, and at t equally large consignment of cotton nighteaps,
his own manufacture. He wrote to each the
h they were to sell, but the sum designated was
too large, of which fact they took occasion to inHe yielded a little in his demand, but still there respondent to make some disposition of his manufac(they can't get money for them, at least to exchange
to matter at what reasonable sacrifice, for any other
Under these instructions, the stocking factor calls
the nightean agent, both unknown to each other in conwith their principal, and "names his view." he wishst can think of nothing which he would like to exchange for large a supply of stockings; but at length a bright thought trikes him. "I have," said he, "a consignment of cotton sightcaps from an old correspondent, which I shall not object to exchange for your stockings." The bargain was soon closed. The stocking-factor wrote back at once that he had at length been enabled to comply with the instructions of his principal. He had exchanged his stockings for "a superior article of nightcap," in an equal quantity, which he was assured were likely to be much in demand before a great while. The next day came a letter from the nightcap-agent, announcing his success, and appended to the letter was a big bill for commissions! As Yellowplush would say, "Fansy that gent's feelings!"

EARTHQUAKE IN THE INDIAN ARCHIPELAGO.

The "Singapore Free Press" of the 4th of February quotes from the "Java Bode" the following account of a terrible commotion of Nature, which commenced on the 16th, or probably the 26th, of December last;

On the 16th of November, about twenty minutes eight in the morning, a heavy vertical oscillation of a ground was felt at Banda Neira, which soon changed in a rapidly increasing undulation from the northeast to a southeast, which lasted for more than five minut Every one left his house; to remain standing was impaible; people were obliged to take a firm hold of son thing, or throw themselves on the ground. In the morning a slight shower of rain fell, but otherwise the worther was not favorable.

ing a slight shower of rain fell, but otherwise the wea-ther was not favorable.

At the first shock nearly all the houses were thrown down, or very much shattered. The Government build-ings, the church, the officers' houses in the encampment, and the warehouses suffered the greatest injury; the Chinese quarter was a heap of ruins; the native village on the Zonnegat was laid waste. The Papenberg fell partly in, and two bamboo houses upon it disappeared, and on Great Bunda the houses of the park-keepers, their out-houses and rmoking-houses for the nutmegs under-went the same fate; every thing there was also thrown out-houses and rmoking-houses for the nutmegs under-went the same fate; every thing there was also thrown down, or greatly injured; nothing is visible of the vil-lage of Lonthoir but a heap of ruins. Saru was terribly shattered, while detached pieces of rock lay every where scattered around. There were no deaths, however, to lament, and only some persons were slightly bruised or wounded.

o'clock a disturbance of the sea (Zee-beving) occurred, which filled every heart with fear and dismay, and caused every one to fly to the highest ground. In quick suc-cession the bay filled and emptied, and at times it ap-

peared to be only a little river.

The ship Atiat al-Rachman, laden with rice, lying in the roads, twice touched the ground, after—like her Majesty's brig De Haai, which had anchored the day previous—having been driven backwards and forwards a number of times; but this seaquake increased in a frightful mannitude. times; but this seaquake increased in a frightful man-ner, and thrice overwhelmed Great Banna and Neira with the largest rollers; on the last place they reached sever-al feet high in the houses, and burst the doors open. These huge waves formed in the Zonnegat and in the channel of Lontheir, and ran so high that they beat over Fort Nassau, and reached the foot of the hill on which

Fort Belgica is built, carrying everything with them in their reflux, but at the same time leaving behind a quantheir renux, but at the same time leaving behind a quantity of fishes. The prahus in the roads were driven amongst and against each other, and carried to and from the shore. They foundered, or drove in the Zonnegat, where they struck on the shore; only a few could save themselves by flight. These prahus belonged to the Saru and Key Islands and Ceram, and a part of their crews, finding themselves on shore county the structure of the same county the same structure. and Key Islands and Ceram, and a part of their crews, finding themselves on shore, sought shelter in one of the sheds on the old pier, but they could not withstand the force of the rollers, and in a moment were torn out of their place of shelter and driven seawards, there miserably to perish. It is estimated that sixty men lost their lives in this way.

Miserable was the condition of the inhabitants, who

aw the waves, twenty-six feet high, rolling so irresistibly towards them, threatening to engulf them, the grou continually rocking under their feet, the atmosph echoing with loud reports like cannon shots, filling their hearts with fear; and this all-destructive, indescribable state of things lasted, not merely for five minutes, an hour, a day, but for successive days; for these frightful natural phenomena only ceased on the 22d of December, while all that time scarcely an hour passed that the ground did not heave and shake, now in the heaviest manner, and then lighter, but always so that distrust and who, partly or wholly ruined, without habitations, sheltering in light bamboo huts, look forward to the gloomiest future, and will perhaps never be able to recover from the blow which they have received.

During these earth and seaquakes, which last, however, did not extend beyond the north side of the Neira and to the south side of Great Bandas, Gunong Api was quiescent, and no alteration was observed in the smoke proceeding

The accounts from the islands Rosengein and Ai were even more tragical, and the destruction there not less. The spice barks Kalie and Noorwegen on great Banda, the last which remain standing, also at length fell in, and at present there are not more than two habitable houses in Neira. The residency house has suffered much. Rock and earth slips from the Papenberg occurred there for a length of time.

The same disastrous accounts had been received from Ceram. An earth and seaquake had also occurred there on the 26th November, and caused great damage. The heavy rollers of the sea had swept away the houses on the beach, and thrown more than a hundred prahus on shore, of which a number had been destroyed, while many persons fell victims to this terrible commotion of nature. From Amboyna we also learn that on the morning of the 26th November, about half-past eight, the earth-quake was felt in a direction from N. E. to W. S. W., with a duration of about five minutes. This was preceded on the 19th by some slight shocks. The disturbance of the sea also took place, but not to such a destructive and heavy extent as at Banda, although on the same The same disastrous accounts had been received from from the island near Amboyna are not so favorable. Nearly all experienced the extraordinary commotion both of sea and land. The houses at Saparua and many native boats were seriously injured, and very heavy loss has

The earthquake which occurred at Batavia and Bulter zorg on the night of the 20th December was also felt in the residence of Krawang, Magelang, Bantam, Banyumaas, Tatal, and Pekalongan, and in the Lampong

ATMOSPHERIC TELEGRAPH.

FROM THE BOSTON DAILY ADVE ATISER OF SATURDAY. We had an opportunity yeste rday of examining Mr. I. S. Richardson's ingenious in vention called the "Atmospheric Telegraph," by which letters and parcels can be transported considerable distances with almost incredible velocity, rendering it prr ctically nearly equal in speed to many advantages in other respect.

The apparatus Consists of a tube connecting the places between which communication is to be maintained, in which a sort of piston called "the plunger" is fitted with a loose leather packing. The matter to be sent is enclosed in a beg attached behind this plunger. Its propulsion of an air pump, producing a partial vacuum. This pro-polling power is so great as to produce an apparently in-Etantaneous motion of the plunger with its load from one end to the other of the model tube on exhibition, which force, when not confined, as to knock down violently a CONTRABAND TRADE.—The (Cherokee Advocate of the beavy billet of wood placed opposite the end of the tube, if it is left open. The speed is estimated at about one thousand miles in an hour. The apparatus is so arranged that there can be intermediate stations upon the lin at which the progress of the plunger can be arrested, or, f preferred, it can pass directly through to the terminus difficulties to the plan which readily

suggest themselves have been ingeniously and apparently effectually obviated by Mr. Richardson. The inconvenience of the sudden shock occasioned by the arrival of the plunger at the end of its journey is avoided by an arrangement by which a portion of the air in front of it is compressed and allowed to escape, but gradually, forming a sort of cushion to ease the jolt. The retarding effect of the friction caused by the motion of the large column of air which necessarily follows the plunger in the tube is prevented by the occasional recurrence of valves in the tube connecting with the atmosphere to be opened by the plunger as it passes. The friction of the plunger itself is reduced to a very low point by the maner in which its packing is constructed.

We are informed that the apparatus has met with the approval of several gentlemen competent to form a sound

ion who have examined it. The patent right for the machine is owned by the Atmospheric Telegraph Company, of which Mr. Richard-son is agent. It is proposed to open on Tuesday next, in this city, the subscription books of a company under the name of the "New York and Boston Atmospheric Despatch Company," to construct a line between this city and New York. The tube of this line, it is proposed r for his fabrics. Again he writes, in reply to other ais correspondents, naming a yet smaller amount; is estimated at \$2,000 per mile. There will be supply clapse, and yet no sales. At length he writes to valves as often as once in twenty-five miles, and intermediate stations at suitable points; for instance, at Worce ter, Springfield, &c. There will be air-pumps at all the and the others proceeding throughout direct. It is exchange a lot of superior cotton stockings for some other as the is not particular what kind, as the transaction is for a md, who is desirous of "closing his stock." The man at st can think of nothing which he would like to exchange for be powerful competitors as contractors for performing

THE GIRARD WILL CASE.

in the United States Circuit Court, at Philadehia, on Wednesday, Judge GRIER refused a motion for a ew trial in the case of the heirs of the Girard estate vs. theity of Philadelphia : in which case the jury had given a erdict. for the plaintiffs. This decision gives to the heirs leven tracts of coal land in Schuylkill county, valued a one million of dollars. The question involved was wholer, under the laws of Pennsylvania, a will devising all the real estate of the testator conveys to the deviser lasts purchased by the testator after the will is executed. The Court has decided that it does not. Judge GRIER son

"The reason why after-purchased lands do not pass, will, even though the testator has expressed clearly a rish or intention that they should, is not because such

"The reason why after-purchased lands do not pass, a will, even though the testator has expressed clearly I wish or intention that they should, is not because such purchase is a revocation of the will, but because a will is in the nature of a conveyance or an appointment of a particular estate, and consequently the testator must have the power to dispose at the time the will is executed. Hence a devise of land, though it operates is futuro, can pass only such interest or estate as the testator had at the time, and continued to have till his decease. Like a grant of all a man's estate and interest without warranty or covenant of title, it is no estoppel against the grantor or his heir.

"Thus, if a man having an equitable estate in land devise it, and afterwards purchase the legal title, the latter will descend to his heir; but equity will not hole him as a trustee for the devisee of the equitable or usus fructory estate. On the contrary, if the testator have but the legal estate at the time he makes his will, and after ward purchases the equitable estate, the devisee of the legal estate will be held as trustee for the heir to whom the after purchased equitable estate descends. There is no extinguishment of the after-purchased title for the sake of enlarging the devise, and the heir is not estopped from averring that the devisee took just such estate or title as the testator had at the date of the execution of his will. Nor can the distinction taken by the learned counsel between title and estate avail to establish a difference in the present case. A man who has neither possession nor right has no estate in the land. He who has nothing can convey nothing.

"The principles laid down by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in the case reported 4 Rawle, 335,336, conclusively overruls the positions advanced by defendants, and leave their case without a foundation on which to rest. It is there decided that 'the question whether after purchased lands pass by a previous devise does not depend on the intention of the testa

the estate to be perfect at the time; that the act of disposition must be complete in every respect at the performance of it; that a testator, like any other grantor,
cannot give what he has not; and, finally, that a subsequent purchase giving the land to the testator is repugnant to the import of the devise which would give it to
the devisee, and therefore not to be intended to have been
in subservience to the will.
"These principles rule this case conclusively not only

"These principles rule this case conclusively, not only as regards the nine tracts to which the testator had no title whatever, and no estate by seisin or disseisin, but also as regards the other two, which, though then sold under the Nicholson lien, were not conveyed till after the codicil. As to the latter, the testator had at the time of making his will the bare possession, as tenant at will or sufferance, not in hostility to the purchaser at the sale. This estate was liable to be defeated at any moment, by execution of the deed, which would operate by relation This estate was hable to be defeated at any moment, by execution of the deed, which would operate by relation to the original sale. Mr. Girard, by the purchase and completion of this title, defeated and put an end to the uncertain possessor's estate, or right held by him at the time of his devise.

"No case can be found where the purchase of a fee

simple estate, after a devise, has been held in subservi-ence to the object of the will, because at the time of mak-ing it the testator had some worthless or pretended claim fictitious extinguishment or estoppel to bar his claim as against the pretended or doubtful claims of the devisee."

GOLD IN TEXAS. - A gentleman recently from the Sandies Gold in Texas.—A gentleman recently from the Sandies brings information that there is little prospect of success in digging gold in that quarter. There are evidently auriferous deposites, but the yield for a day's labor is too small to justify working; the proceeds of a day's work not being worth more than half a dollar on an average. The particles are small, and must, from every indication, have been washed from a considerable distance. The existence of gold, silver, and other minerals in the Colorado hills has been known for any average.

Jersey has passed a stringent act having for its object the deprivation of habitual drunkards of certain social and deprivation of habitual drunkards of certain social and legal rights, and operating to the same extent as the act entitled "an act concerning idiots and lunatics." By this enactment it is permissible for the Court of Chancery, on receiving a representation from parties interested that a citizen is incapable of managing his temporal affairs from habitual drunkenness, to issue a writ similar in power and action to a writ de lunatico enquirendo, appointing a commission for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of the allegation. If the commission decide on the incapacity and habitual drunkenness of the individual, he is immediately deprived of all power over his real and personal estate, guardians are appointed by law to manage his affairs, and a will executed by him after or pending such decision of the committee is of no effect. Every innkeeper, distiller, or grocer who shall sell liquor to any individual under such restriction is liable to a fine of tynd dollars each time the offence is committed. In short, the habitual drunkard in New Jersey henceforward may be treated as an imbeelle or lunatio on the strength of protreated as an imbecile or lunatic on the strength of pro-per representation.—New York paper.

Mysterious Disappearance.—About a week since a gentleman by the name of Clay arrived in this city, with his wife, on their way to Pittsburg. He engaged passage on the steamer Buckeye State, left his wife on board, and went into the city on business. Not being at the boat at the time of her departure, he was left—his wife going on. Since that time nothing has been heard of him. His wife returned to the city on Thursday; but as yet has not been able to get any intelligence of her husband. He is said to have had about sixteen thousand dollars upon his person, and there are circumstances connected with his disappearance which indicate that he has been robbed and murdered. Mrs. Eunice Clay, his wife, is stopping with her two children at the Walnut Street House. Mysterious Disappearance.-About a week since a her two children at the Walnut Street House. [Cincinnati Gazatte.

WARNINGS AGAINST INTEMPERANCE.-Two men (Fits gerald and Neary) have been convicted in New York-during the present week of murdering their wives. Both were intemperate men, and committed the horrible deeds whilst under the influence of liquor. In the case of the latter, the son was a witness against his father, as was the case with Spring, the murderer in Philadelphia.

Virginia Militia Mustens.—The Legislature of Virginia, at its late session, abolished all militia musters, to take effect after the year 1858. All persons who will be liable to do militia duty are to be registered by the Commissioners of the Revenue, and to pay 75 cents per annum, which sum is to be collected by the sheriffs in the same manner as other taxes.

The great success which has attended the construction of tubular bridges has induced some of the British ship-builders to take up again the question of iron masts. It is stated that tubular masts may be made of iron, strong-er and lighter than those of wood, and with the additional advantage that they might slide down one into the other telescope fashion, while they would require neither shrouds nor stays, leaving room for bracing round the

SNUFF-TAKING .- Professor MILLER, adverting, at a meeting at Edinburgh recently, to the strength which a bad habit sometimes acquires, narrated the following story, for which the learned Professor must alone be considered

A respectable clergyman had long failed in an attempt to give up snuff-taking, and at last he preached a sermon against it, but was miserable all the week after. When Sunday came ter, Springfield, &c. There will be air-pumps at all the stations. Hourly mails may be made up and dispatched, a part of them at fixed hours, stopping at the stations, and the others proceeding throughout direct. It is expected that letters and parcels from New York would be addivered in Boston in less than half an hour. A company able to carry mail matter at this rate of speed would be powerful competitors as contractors for performing the mail service. If a sufficient amount of matter is presented, it is claimed that the actual cost of transportation is not more than half that of any other method, while it is twenty times as fast. The line need not be straight, but can be curved so as to follow the face of the ground, or underlie the channels of rivers.

It will be observed that this invention bears some resemblance to the "Atmospheric Railway" so much talked of at one time, but that it avoids the objectionable feating of at one time, but that it avoids the objectionable feating operation a line of three-inch tube a mile in length.